

Message Text

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10

ACTION DPW-01

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 EA-09 IO-10 ISO-00 DHA-02 DODE-00 AID-05

CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 PM-04 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15 SCS-03

SCA-01 /077 W

----- 106375

P R 030745Z NOV 75

FM AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 3607

INFO AMCONSULATE HONG KONG

AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY GENEVA

CINCPAC HONOLULU

JCRC SAMAE SAN THAILAND

UNCLAS BANGKOK 22987

CINCPAC FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: CASC UNHCR VS

SUBJECT: DEBRIEFING OF RETURNEES: MARCH 12 AIR CRASH

REF: A) STATE 256616 B) BANGKOK 22825

1. IN DEBRIEFING PERSONS RELEASED FROM HANOI OCTOBER 30, EMBASSY ASKED ALL THOSE AVAILABLE ABOUT ANY POSSIBLE KNOWLEDGE CONCERNING MARCH 12 CRASH AND PERSONS ON AIRCRAFT, INCLUDING PASSENGER MILLER. ONLY PERSON WITH REAL INFORMATION WAS FORD FOUNDATION SCHOLAR JAY SCARBOROUGH. OTHERS HAD HEARD OF IT EITHER FROM SEARBOROUGH OR NOT AT ALL.

2. SCARBOROUGH, WHO REPORTEDLY HAD BEST COMMAND OF VIETNAMESE LANGUAGE IN GROUP, WAS IN THANH BINH PRISON CAMP IN PLEIKU PROVINCE WHEN EX-ARVN OFFICERS ARRIVED TO JOIN CAMP POPULATION IN JULY. IN CONVERSATION, THEY TOLD UNCLASSIFIED

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SCARBOROUGH THAT THEY WERE AMONG GROUP WHICH HAD GONE TO

INVESTIGATE CRASH, IN AREA WHICH WAS THEN STILL UNDER GVN CONTROL. THEY REPORTED THAT THERE WERE ABSOLUTELY NO SURVIVORS. AMONG DEBRIS WAS SCATTERED QUANTITY OF VIETNAMESE, THAI, LAO, AND US CURRENCY.

3. IT IS EMBASSY'S UNDERSTANDING THAT THIS IS EXTENT OF SCARBOROUGH'S KNOWLEDGE OF SUBJECT, BUT DEPARTMENT MAY WISH TO QUERY HIM FURTHER WHEN RETURNS HOME (TRAVEL PLANS REPORTED REF B).
WHITEHOUSE

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NNN

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